

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of:)	
)	
Kazutsugu SUITA et al.)	
)	Group Art Unit:
Application No.: Not Yet Assigned)	
)	Examiner:
Filed: April 22, 2004)	
)	
For: METHOD AND APPARATUS)	
FOR LIMITING THE)	
MOVEMENT OF A ROBOT,)	
AND A ROBOT EQUIPPED)	
WITH SAID APPARATUS)	

MAIL STOP PATENT APPLICATION
Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT UNDER 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(b)

Pursuant to 37 C.F.R. §§1.56 and 1.97(b), applicants bring to the Examiner's attention the documents listed on attached Form PTO-1449. Copies of the listed documents are attached. Applicants respectfully request that the Examiner consider the documents listed on attached Form PTO-1449 and indicate that they were considered by making an appropriate notation on this form.

This Information Disclosure Statement is being filed with the above-referenced application.

The following are listed on the accompanying PTO-1449 and are in a non-English language:

1. Japanese Patent Publication (Kokai) No. 8-108383 - The relevance of this document is discussed at pages 1 and 2 of the specification of the present application.

An English-language abstract is also enclosed.

2. Japanese Patent Publication (Kokai) No. 64-16395 - The relevance of this document is discussed at pages 1 and 2 of the specification of the present application.

An English-language abstract is also enclosed.

3. Japanese Patent Publication (Kokai) No. 11-347983 discloses that a limited region is set for the coordinate values of the robot arm tip. The distance between the limited region and the arm tip is determined to limit the transportation speed of the arm. An English-language abstract is also enclosed.

4. Japanese Patent Publication (Kokai) No. 7-24762 discloses that a movement-permitted range for a robot is set in terms of shape, position and size. When the position or posture of the robot is controlled, it is determined whether a target position for the positioning of the robot is within the movement-permitted range. If not, movement is stopped. An English-language abstract is also enclosed.

This submission does not represent that a search has been made or that no better art exists and does not constitute an admission that each or all of the listed documents are material or constitute "prior art." If the Examiner applies any of the documents as prior art against any claim in the application and applicants determine that the cited documents do not constitute "prior art" under United States law, applicants reserve the right to present to the Office the relevant facts and law regarding the appropriate status of such documents. Applicants further reserve the right to take


appropriate action to establish the patentability of the disclosed invention over the listed documents, should one or more of the documents be applied against the claims of the present application.

If there is any fee due in connection with the filing of this Statement, please charge the fee to our Deposit Account No. 06-0916.

Respectfully submitted,

FINNEGAN, HENDERSON, FARABOW,
GARRETT & DUNNER, L.L.P.

Dated: April 22, 2004

By: 
Ernest F. Chapman
Reg. No. 25,961

Enclosures
EFC/FPD/gah

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE CITATION

Atty. Docket No. 04853.0113	Application No.
Applicant Kazutsugu SUITA et al.	
Filing Date April 22, 2004	Group:

U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS							
Examiner Initial*		Document Number	Issue Date	Name	Class	Sub Class	Filing Date If Appropriate

FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS							
		Document Number	Publication Date	Country	Class	Sub Class	Translation Yes or No
		8-108383	04/30/1996	Japan			Abstract
		64-16395	01/19/1989	Japan			Abstract
		11-347983	12/21/1999	Japan			Abstract
		7-24762	01/27/1995	Japan			Abstract

OTHER DOCUMENTS (Including Author, Title, Date, Pertinent Pages, Etc.)	

Examiner	Date Considered
*Examiner: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609; draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.	
Form PTO 1449	Patent and Trademark Office - U.S. Department of Commerce